



08/881,393

PATENT

#14/E
m/s
11/30/99

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: FODSTAD ET AL. Examiner: C. CHIN
Serial No.: 08/881,393 Group Art Unit: 1641
Filed: JUNE 24, 1997 Docket No.: 7885.33USD1
Title: METHOD FOR DETECTION OF SPECIFIC TARGET CELLS IN
SPECIALIZED OR MIXED CELL POPULATION AND SOLUTIONS
CONTAINING MIXED CELL POPULATIONS

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being deposited in the United States Postal Service, as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on November 12, 1999.

By: Brenda House
Name: Brenda House

AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

This amendment responds to the Office Action mailed July 12, 1999 in the above-identified application. Applicants request the following amendments be made to the above-identified application.

In the Claims

Please amend claim 17 as follows:

Sub F₁ 17. (Amended) A method for detecting and quantitating a specific target cell in a cell suspension of a mixed cell population, in a fluid system containing a mixed cell population, or in a single cell suspension prepared from a solid tissue, with the exception of normal and malignant hematopoietic cells in blood and bone marrow, the method comprising the steps of:

a. coating paramagnetic particles or beads with an antibody or antibody fragment directed against a membrane structure specifically expressed on the target-cell and not on a non-target-cell in the cell mixture;